

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) A fine alkali metal fluorozincate produced by ~~the method of claim 1, and~~ reacting alkali metal hydroxide, zinc oxide, and alkali metal fluoride or hydrogen fluoride in aqueous phase, wherein alkali metal hydroxide and zinc oxide are mixed into a suspension and hydrogen fluoride is added, said fine alkali metal fluorozincate having a grain spectrum in which 50% of all particles have a diameter $< 5 \mu\text{m}$.

9. (Currently amended) An alkali metal fluorozincate according to claim 8, wherein the alkali metal is potassium.

10. (Original) A potassium fluorozincate according to claim 9, having a grain spectrum in which 50% of all particles have a diameter $< 3.8 \mu\text{m}$.

11. (Currently amended) A medium fine alkali metal fluorozincate produced by ~~the method of claim 1, and~~ reacting alkali metal hydroxide, zinc oxide, and alkali metal fluoride or hydrogen fluoride in aqueous phase, wherein hydrogen fluoride and zinc oxide are mixed with one another and alkali metal hydroxide is added, said medium fine alkali metal fluorozincate having a grain spectrum in which 50% of all particles have a diameter $< 11 \mu\text{m}$.

12. (Currently amended) A coarse alkali metal fluorozincate produced by ~~the method of claim 1, and~~ reacting alkali metal hydroxide, zinc oxide, and alkali metal fluoride or hydrogen fluoride in aqueous phase, wherein hydrogen fluoride

and zinc oxide are mixed with one another and alkali metal fluoride is added, said coarse alkali metal fluorozincate having a grain spectrum in which 50% of all particles have a diameter > 11 μ m.

13. (Original) A method of fluxing an aluminum or aluminum alloy component for brazing, said method comprising applying to said component a fluxing agent comprising an alkali metal fluorozincate according claim 8.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 13, wherein said fluxing agent is applied by electrostatic dry fluxing.

15. (Original) A method of fluxing an aluminum or aluminum alloy component to be brazed, said method comprising applying to said component a fluxing agent comprising an alkali metal fluorozincate according to claim 11.

16. (Original) A method of fluxing an aluminum or aluminum alloy component to be brazed, said method comprising applying to said component a fluxing agent comprising an alkali metal fluorozincate according to claim 12.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 16, wherein said fluxing agent is applied by wet fluxing from an aqueous or organic suspension.